



Southeast News

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DR. ROBERT V. MOSS, president of the United Church of Christ, receives a sample copy of the new U. C. C. Hymnal from Dr. Thomas D. Garner, general secretary of the Division of Publication, United Church Board for Homeland Ministries. Prepublication orders for the hymnal have now been filled. Additional orders should be sent to:

United Church Press
1505 Race Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Cost of the hymnal is \$5.00 each, or \$4.50 each in quantities of 26 or more.

17/76 Achievement Fund In SE Conf.

Of the 80 churches in the Southeast Conference of the United Church of Christ, 24 have voted to participate, 18 have adopted goals totalling \$115,700, thereby exceeding the Challenge Goal of \$89,455 for the conference.

We need to enroll churches yet uncommitted, to translate "goals" into "pledges" and to transform "pledges" into "cash."

Members of the churches should transform their pledges into cash and give this to their church. The churches send cash collected to Southeast Conference, P. O. Box 29883, Atlanta, Ga. 30329. The conference office sends the money each month to the treasurer of the United Church of Christ, Charles H. Lockyear, in New York.

From Easter We Head For Pentecost

Dr. Paul L. Hammer, professor of New Testament in Colgate Rochester-Bexley Hall-Crozer Theological Schools, has for us messages on these two important events in the life of the church (quoted from FOCUS Bulletins of The United Church of Christ, March 30 and May 18, 1975):

EASTER

Easter is here! What do we celebrate? The revival of the old, which still must die? No, the creation of the new, which lives forever.

The "immortality of the soul," which sentimentalizes death?

No, the resurrection of the dead, which conquers death forever.

The emptiness of an ancient tomb?

No, the fullness of a present Lord.

Easter is here! What shall we communicate?

Sweet talk of eggs and bunnies and butterflies in nature's rebirth?

No, the strong talk of God's creative power to make human life new.

Pretty words, "Happy Easter!" that forget Good Friday before?

No, powerful words, "He is risen!" that remember a self-giving cross.

A transient message of passing elation, here today and gone tomorrow?

No, a triumphant message of persistent love.

Easter is here. What can we contribute? Only personal words and feelings within a church's walls?

No, public life and action to recreate a world.

Only pious thoughts and sentiments to warm our hearts?

No, piercing wisdom and deeds to share God's creation.

Only an annual celebration on the periphery of our life?

No, a daily commitment to the risen Lord at the center of our love.

Colossians 3:1-4. Easter celebrates the glorious breaking of barriers

Between the present and the future!

Christ's resurrection makes a future hope a present power

Between God's heavenly reign "above" and our earthly life "below".

(CONT'N PAGE 4)

CUBS AND SCOUTS SPONSORED BY THOMASVILLE, BETHANY



Cub Pack and Scout Troop 353, sponsored by Bethany United Congregational Church, Thomasville, Ga., became official scouting organizations Sunday, Feb. 16, as they received their charter during worship services at the church. District scout executive Bruce McDonald (l) presents the charter to the Rev. Artis Johnson, church pastor (r) as officials (l-r) James Drew, Ananias Hopkins, Marvin Johnson, James King and Stanley Brower look on. King is Scoutmaster and the other are committee members. Not shown is Cubmaster Reginald Wilkerson. Cubs and Scouts present were, front row (l-r), Anthony Bryant, Anthony Hopkins, and Anthony Davis. Second row: Johnny Williams, Carl Brower, Eddie Turner, Benjamin Williams, and Reginald Flanders. Third row: Virgil Tillman, Phillip Robinson, Herbert Harriett, James Baker, Willie Robinson, Michael Young, and King Brown. Fourth row: Ronald Malone, Gregory Bryant, Willie Warren, Ronald Williams, Hoyt Williams, and Lorenzo Garlin. Fifth row: James Brower, Darrell Vickers, Clifford Graham, and Eric Hadley. Sixth row: Preston Tillman.

Vanderbilt Divinity School Celebrates Centennial

A Continuing Education Extravaganza, they called it, was held at Vanderbilt Divinity School March 31-April 5. "The Biblical Faith and Contemporary Society" was the theme of this Creative Communication Conference honoring the Centennial Celebration of the School.

Re: PLEASANT HILL

The Wharton Home Auxiliary of Uplands, our retirement center at Pleasant Hill, Tenn., has 149 dues-paying members. Members of this auxiliary serve as receptionists in the lobby of Wharton Home, answer questions and direct visitors to the places or persons they desire to visit. They take residents out on the porch or for auto rides. A coffee hour is held every morning 9:00-10:00, and a tea hour, every Wednesday afternoon at 3:00 P. M. A Games Night is frequently held, a book sale is planned for May 31, and a Christmas Craft Sale is scheduled for November 24.

The auxiliary assisted in the purchase of an Easy-Bath, thermos pitchers for the tables, and small thermos cups for the trays so that all who live at Wharton Nursing Home will have their tea and coffee hot.

Mr. Nathaniel Williams, secretary of alumni affairs at Fisk University, Nashville, spoke at the Pleasant Hill Community Church on Sunday, March 16, 1975, in the interest of 17-76.

The pastor and deacons of Pleasant Hill Church conducted "The office of Tenebrae," a Fourth Century office to which has been added Holy Communion, on Maundy Thursday, March 27, in the Community Church and on Friday, Holy Communion was celebrated in the assembly room at Wharton Home.

An Easter sunrise service was held on Easter Sunday back of McClintock home in Pleasant Hill.

Uplands has made available garden plots to residents of Pleasant Hill so that people can raise some of their own food and at the same time enjoy the fellowship of other gardeners.

Vaughan Hall, son of Rev. and Mrs. W. Walter Hall, made the Dean's Honor List, making all A's last term at Berea College.

Who May Live At Uplands?

Any person may apply for residency who is 55 years of age (the older member of a couple must be 55). The applicant gives such details of style of life that the admissions-committee may request. The applicant submits a physician's report containing general health questions. The application is accompanied with a processing fee of \$100, which is non-returnable.

Upon approval, the applicant will send a membership fee of \$500, which will be refunded if the applicant does not come to Uplands.

Brookmeade Church 1975 Deacons' Goals

1. Start worship on time and try to keep to schedule approved by congregation:
10:30 AM — Worship Service
11:15 AM — Coffee and Fellowship
11:30 AM — Sunday School, Adult Education
12:15 PM — Sunday School ends.
 2. Prior to worship, maintain quiet atmosphere in sanctuary and encourage conversations to be held in the hall.
 3. Devotionals for families for Lent.
 4. Communion Schedule: March 27, April 13, July 6, October 5.
 - +5. New Hymnals by Easter
 6. Organ Committee appointed to investigate cost and feasibility of new organ for sanctuary.
 7. Investigate feasibility of student intern from Vanderbilt Divinity School for September, 1975.
 8. Christian Witness:
Awareness of members not present through Sunday worship and other activities; follow-up communication through phone calls, visitations, newsletter, etc.
 9. Responsibility to Neighborhood:
a) Barbecue for families in immediate neighborhood — May 4 (tentative)
b) Program for youth — June, July, August.
 10. Planning & programming through October for new members.
- +Brookmeade Church voted March 9, to purchase 75 United Church of Christ hymnals, and these will be dedicated April 13, to the memory of Abel Amherst Coult.

Deer Lodge Scouts Are "Best"

Boy Scout Troop of Deer Lodge, Tenn., held their Anniversary Banquet Feb. 20, at the school in Deer Lodge. Guest speaker was Larry Balleine, pastor of Deer Lodge, Glenmary, and Robbins Congregational Christian Churches. He emphasized that scouting is: Responsibility with opportunity, teamwork, and an unfolding mystery.

This troop met in the Deer Lodge Church for many years, but has its own building now. Bernard Wojtasiak is the scoutmaster and there are 21 boys in the troop.

Attendance pins were awarded to two boys who had attended 49 out of 52 meetings during the year. Membership pins were awarded: one boy received a 4-year pin, 3 received 5-year pins, one a 6-year pin, and one, now an Eagle Scout, received an 8-year pin. A number of merit badges were presented.

A visiting District Scout representative remarked: "Of 32 troops in 5 counties, this is the best troop."

Interfaith Mission In Huntsville

Interfaith Mission Service, Huntsville, Ala., is looking for church families to join their Share a Family program. The church family is to provide friendships to individual underprivileged (not just financially but also emotionally) youth and isolated elderly. The individual families from a church adopt a single youth or elderly person as a friend. The adoption period is for a minimum of one year with monthly visits. The program for the elderly provides the companionship of a complete family unit to ease the problems of loneliness and isolation. For the youth, it provides an image of family life and friendship outside their normal environment.

YOU PASTOR IS NOW WORKING

So wrote the pastor of Brookmeade Congregational Church in Nashville, Tenn., to his congregation Feb. 20, 1975.

Stephen C. Gray became pastor of Brookmeade Church with the understanding that he was to become a "priest-worker." He will be working approximately 15 hours a week as a "Van Driver" for the House of Friendship, a project of the Nashville Association for Mental Health. In addition to the driving, he will be acting in the role of counselor and friend. He works on Mondays and Thursdays from 3:00 to 11:00 P. M.

From the Mid-Week Newsletter, it is evident that he will be a busy pastor and a busy worker.

Pleasant Hill Church Seeks A Bell

Mrs. Lois Lubenthal, chairman of the Bell Committee of Pleasant Hill Community Church, writes:

"Our Pleasant Hill Community Church seeks a bell for the belfry to replace an old one which no longer rings. We are interested in having a bell that rings because of the heritage and traditions which have come to us from the old Pleasant Hill Academy and Pleasant Hill Church.

"We need a bell not more than 30 inches high and 31½ inches across the base. It would be advantageous if we could locate a bell in this general area where once many small churches flourished that date back to the days of the early settlements."

If you have a bell or you know where a church bell could be found, would you write: Miss Lois Lubenthal in care of Pleasant Hill Community Church, P. O. Box 167, Pleasant Hill, Tenn. 38578. Rev. Walter Hall is the pastor.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- APRIL 8 — Georgia Interchurch Association, Presbyterian Center, Atlanta
 10 — 2-6 PM. 17-76 Achievement Fund Committee, Atlanta Airport
 10-24 — Leila Anderson in Churches in Alabama
 12 — 10 AM. Southern Alabama Area Council, Montgomery, Ala. Francis Restaurant
 18-20 — Mini-Youth Camp, Camp Tim-poochee, Florida
 18-19 — Executive Council, Ala.-Tenn. Association, Chattanooga
 20 — 7 PM. Installation of Henry W. Tuttle as pastor and teacher of Pilgrim Church, Birmingham.
 25-27 — Walter Snowa, missionary to Micronesia, in Ga. churches.
 MAY 5-7 — Ministers' Convocation. Camp Sumatanga, Gallant, Ala. Churches should assist their ministers in their expenses. Spouses are urged to attend also.
 16 — Morgan Scott Project Advisory Committee, Oak Ridge United Methodist Church.

After Easter, What?

May Fellowship Day, May 2 — Materials can be ordered from Church Women United Service Center, Box 37815, Cincinnati, Ohio 45237.

Vacation Church School Materials — for this summer can be ordered from Cokesbury, 201 Eighth Avenue, South, Nashville, Tenn. 37202, or shop in person at Cokesbury stores in Atlanta, Birmingham, or Nashville.

Or, if you are using United Church Curriculum, the summer courses are excellent. These materials can be ordered from Division of Publication Department, 1505 Race Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19102.

Or, order Friendship Press publications

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FIGHTING HUNGER WITH MORE THAN RELIEF



Students at Asian Institute planting rice

The Asia Rural Institute newly located in Nishinasuno, Japan, has for a dozen years been training rural leaders from seventeen Asian countries. Around the world, it always comes out the same: A crucial ingredient of successful rural development is leadership. Land, money, technology are all vitally important, but lacking leadership with skill, vision, and motivation, all these other factors together will rarely, if ever, produce significant or lasting rural development.

In groups of about twenty students, the Institute has trained in all about 140 persons, mostly men, and returned them to Korea, the Philippines, Taiwan, Thailand, India, and elsewhere in Asia.

At the institute, mornings are typically spent in classroom activity, with afternoons given over to field experience. One day a week, during the eight-month term, the students and staff take a field trip to a local farm, an agricultural institution, a social service program, or a public school. During the summer months each student is assigned to live and work with a Japanese family, learning by doing on an actual operating farm.

Next year, the Institute expects to increase the number of women students. To help, the United Church Board for World Ministries made a special grant toward the building of a women's dormitory. The Board's support for the Institute includes the salary of the Reverend Gretchen DeVries, the only American on the Institute's staff, and small grants toward its operating budget.

from Cokesbury, 201 Eighth Ave., South, Nashville, Tenn. 37202.

April and May — Budget building process, Phase 3, for your Christian Enlistment should be well underway. If your church does not have the "Guide for Christian Enlistment," order from The Stewardship Council, 1505 Race St., Phila., Pa. 19102.

U. C. C. Bulletins can be ordered from The Stewardship Council (address above). Family Thank Offering materials, "With Heart, With Mind," can be ordered from Church Leadership Resources, P. O. Box 179, St. Louis, Mo. 63166.

Church Life Resources For Laity And Clergy

The theme from Micah 6:8 is exemplified in the poster.

A name tag and pin and an oval gummed sticker are "added attractions" for the "main dish," a booklet of 12 worship-programs on the theme "What does the Lord require?" These programs are varied in format and range from personal to church and community "requirements."

A Bible Study folder on the theme includes group and personal study suggestions.

Included to use in connection with it is Justice Now!, scripture portion (Hosea, Amos, Micah) so that you can have the Bible background in "Today's English Version."

The Bicentennial theme is picked up in an unusual way: Early American Church Music, which not only tells you about it but gives 10 ways for using it.

A piece entitled Overview of Steps in Program Planning is not new, but is reprinted because of its continuing value. From England comes a copy of an Audenshaw Paper, which deals in an interesting way with "Some Disrespectful Questions About Those Wonderful Meetings."

From the United Nations come two pieces dealing with the International Women's Year containing program and action ideas. Local Church Life and Leadership is concerned with ideas on worship, study, planning and action.

Stewardship and Mission concerns are highlighted in the calendar for special offerings, the roster of Interdenominational Mission Conferences and Highways of Service.

A new issue of Faith Exploration News in the form of a catalog and a copy of this bulletin complete the first packet of CHURCH LIFE RESOURCES — For laity and clergy. Unless you count such things as the Suggestions for Use and order blanks, which can be used for ordering additional copies of specific items.

The second packet (available in June) centers around Land, Energy and People and World Hunger. It will also contain such items as a suggested program for Laity Sunday, the Friendship Press catalog (which was not ready for the first packet), and ideas related to ecology and the environment.

Both packets are available for \$5.50 (including postage and handling).

Because area leaders often want these resources for spring and summer training sessions, we try to get the first packet ready in March. Most local churches will not begin using these materials until their program year begins — usually in September.

Memorial Service Held For Nightingale

Rev. Abram Nightingale died in Passaic, N. J., on February 1, and funeral services were held at the First Congregational Church in Passaic on February 4, with Rev. William A. Winterbottom of First Congregational Church, Crossville, Tenn., assisting. Following this, a memorial service was held at First Congregational Church, Crossville, Feb. 16. Residents of Crossville and Cumberland County participated in the Service of Celebration for Mr. Nightingale's 32 years of outstanding service on the Plateau.

A Memorial Fund has been established in memory of Rev. Abram Nightingale, and will be used to establish memorials at Cumberland Medical Center and the new Library. Gifts to the Memorial Fund may be made to the Nightingale Memorial Fund, P. O. Box 475, Crossville, Tenn., 38555.

Mr. Nightingale, 87, became both a legend and an institution in Cumberland County during his 32-year ministry as pastor of First Congregational Church, Crossville. He served as pastor until he retired on Dec. 31, 1956. He was responsible for the first hot lunch program in the schools and advances in both the health and sanitation fields, including a proposal to offer free inoculations against disease.

Over the years, he played host to travelers through the area, promoted a peach canning project to help the needy and worked with the Red Cross to provide clothing for those in dire need.

During the depression years of the late 1920s and early 1930s he found room to board young men so they could attend high school or work on the Homestead project, and when World War II came along, his home earned a warm, respected reputation as the "Little USO" for servicemen. Yet, he found time to befriend both Germans and Italians held prisoners at the POW camp.

He was an early proponent of ecumenism as he opened his church, home and parish to Seventh-Day Adventists, Mormons, Catholics, Episcopalians and others.

In later years, he became particularly interested in the plight of Blacks and Puerto Ricans in New Jersey.

After retiring in 1956, Mr. Nightingale was honored by being named Pastor Emeritus of the church in Crossville.

(FROM EASTER from page 1)

In Christ's resurrection God's new life already enters into us
Between all human beings!
In Christ's resurrection God's creative purpose reconciles all.
At one with Christ, we can know the harmonizing glory of his love.

PENTECOST

What do we celebrate on this "birthday" of the church?
We celebrate a long history of expectant waiting
For a new human community to be born.
A humanity, depicted in the Genesis' Tower of Babel story
As bent on idolatrous name-building to make life secure,
Ends in the babbling wreckage of destroyed community.
But God answers with the call of a servant people
To be a blessing to all the families of earth;
And Israel's long history climaxes in the Christ,
Who with arms outstretched in love embodies that blessing
To bring and bind together all in God's human family.
We celebrate a Spirit given to cut across all the barriers
Of race and language, history and geography,
Politics and economics, social class and religious heritage,
That keep us from hearing the good news, intended for all
To free us for one another in nourishing community,
And empower us for an imaginative mission that reaches
To the ends of the earth and into every part of life
With creative compassion and healing justice,
Letting the Holy Spirit make us whole persons and peoples
In God's new human community.
Pentecost!

ACTS 2:1-21. "Tongues of Fire." To what does such Pentecost imagery point? Fire in the Old Testament can symbolize God's purging presence. In the Acts of the Apostles, "tongues of fire" suggests that the disciples shall speak to people in various languages of God's purging presence. The celebration of Pentecost and the gift of the Holy Spirit is not a sweet and sentimental birthday party for the church. It celebrates a message of wind and fire that can blow and burn God's presence into our lives and make us fresh and clean.



Camp Sumatanga, site of Ministers' Convocation May 5-7.

Russian Churchmen Visit Atlanta

Two days of intensive activities characterized the visit of six Russian Churchmen in Atlanta, Feb. 27-March 1. A public forum concluded the visit on Friday at Christ the King Cathedral on Peachtree Street.

The Atlanta portion of the ongoing ecumenical exchange program of the National Council of Churches USA was planned by a Host Committee representing the varied denominations in Atlanta.

A special Doxology service of Thanksgiving was held at the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation on Clairmont Road, Atlanta, on Thursday evening. The service was conducted in English, Greek and Slavonic. Following the Doxology, the Banquet was held honoring visitors from Russia. United Church of Christ was represented by: Rev. Karlton C. Johnson, Dr. Homer C. McEwen, Mrs. Jewel Simon, Dr. and Mrs. Paul Rice, and Dr. Amey Chappell, of Atlanta.

Rev. Carolyn Welch To Illinois Conference

The Wabash Association of the Illinois Conference has called the Rev. Carolyn F. Welch to be its Pastor-at-Large. She comes to the conference from Dayton, Ohio, to assume duties April 6, just in time for the Wabash meeting.

Miss Welch once served in the Southeast Conference, the last church being Evarts, Kentucky.

A son, David Nelson, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Jim Jackson on Sunday, Feb. 23, in Americus, Ga.